

South Dakota Council  
on Developmental Disabilities



2520 E Franklin St, Suite 4  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501  
605.773.6369 1-800-265-9684  
dhs.sd.gov/cdd.aspx

**Report of Executive Committee Meeting  
July 25, 2023**

The Executive Committee met at 11 a.m. Central Time on July 25, 2023, via Zoom. Present were Sara Valle, Caryn Johnson and Arlene Poncelet.

Budget Update

Arlene provided an updated budget for the Executive Committee. Bottom line is that if all these projects are funded, the Council's FFY23 budget would be over obligated. Looking to the future and FFY24, there is a possibility that the Council funding could be cut or just level funded. Arlene estimated the FFY24 funds with a 9% cut for planning purposes this meeting.

Sponsorship Request – South Dakota Parent Connection – Printing of Behavior Guide

Arlene recommended \$1,000 be approved for printing of the Behavior Guides. The Executive Committee agreed by consensus.

Mini-Grant – USD Communication Sciences & Disorders – Emergency Preparedness: Communication Training for People with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities and First Responders

This is a re-submission with additional information regarding whether the applicant or community partners knew about the Niagara University First Responder Disability Awareness Training grant funded by the Council the past four years. The committee consensus was to not fund this project due to the unknown availability of funds for FFY24 and because the Council just completed a large project related to first responders.

For unsolicited requests, the Executive Committee is to review and determine if it is something the Executive Committee feels the full Council might be interested in funding and to ask them to present at the next meeting.



Unsolicited Request – USD Center for Disabilities – South Dakota Developmental Disabilities Conference

This project has been discussed at the Council meetings previously and was recommended by the Executive Committee to be presented to the full Council at the August meeting.

Unsolicited Request – Division of Developmental Disabilities – SD Community of Practice for Supporting Families

Discussion included: 1) this project has been funded by the Council for 7 years; 2) application is for a larger amount than last year when not all the funds were spent; 3) stipends paid to family members to participate in activities; and 4) could the connections with Partners graduates take place without the grant funding. There was hesitation but this application was recommended by the Executive Committee to be presented to the full Council at the August meeting.

Unsolicited Request – Northern Hills Training Center – The Hunt

Discussion included: 1) does this really fit the Council's State Plan; 2) unknown amount of federal funds for the upcoming year; 3) would rather use Council funds for other projects; and 4) possible consideration of a smaller amount of funding. By consensus, the Executive Committee did not recommend this proposal for funding or presentation to the full Council.

Unsolicited Request – South Dakota Parent Connection – Transition Success

Discussion included: 1) this is a three-year project so less than \$12,500 per year; and 2) transition services is included in the Council's state plan. The proposal was recommended by the Executive Committee to be presented to the full Council at the August meeting.

SOAR: Seeking Opportunities for an Advocacy Revolution

This is a self-advocacy conference that is a collaborative effort of groups from Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa. The Center for Disabilities has provided a sponsorship of \$5,000 for the 2023 conference being held in Kansas. Would it be beneficial for the Council to also support with a sponsorship? No decision was made today.

Succession Planning for Executive Director

Arlene shared that she is looking towards retirement in 18-24 months. She recommended a few next steps. During discussion of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Human Services include this topic to identify any potential issues such as meeting the Sole Source Procurement requirements for contracts. The Council has used East Dakota Educational Coop (doing business as Teachwell Solutions) since 1997; is it time to review our satisfaction with them or possibly look for another fiscal agent? If we



continue with Teachwell Solutions, what are the timelines and process for announcing the position and filling the position. The Council will need to determine if location in Pierre is a necessity and the base salary to be offered. Finally, consider how training of the new person will occur – any overlap between Arlene leaving and the new person starting.

#### ACL Questions on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identify

Arlene reviewed questions that have been received from the Administration on Community Living. These questions are to be asked as part of the Participant Information gathered from people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their family members who are participating in ALL Council supported activities.

Nationally, DD Councils have expressed concern about the questions and have asked ACL for more information on the reasons for asking these specific questions and stating their Council may not be able to include the questions because of state rules and policies. For the current fiscal year, Arlene was unsure if they would be required in the annual report.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Arlene Poncelet, Executive Director

## Poncelet, Arlene

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**From:** Carla Miller <cmiller@sdparent.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 31, 2023 4:37 PM  
**To:** Poncelet, Arlene  
**Subject:** [EXT] Guide sponsorship

Good afternoon, Arlene. We are going to be reprinting the guide "When Behavior Is a Concern". You provided a \$1000.00 sponsorship for printing last year. Would you be interested in providing that again this year?

Thanks!

Dr. Carla Miller, Ed.D.  
Executive Director  
**Email:** [cmiller@sdparent.org](mailto:cmiller@sdparent.org)  
**Phone:** (800) 640.4553 / (605) 361.3171  
**Fax:** (605) 361.2928  
**Website:** [www.sdparent.org](http://www.sdparent.org)  
**Address:** [3701 W. 49<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 102, Sioux Falls, SD 57106](#)

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**Heartland Self-Advocacy Resource Network**  
**SOAR: Seeking Opportunities for an Advocacy Revolution**

We are excited for Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities to host the 2023 SOAR Conference.

**October 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Overland Park Marriott**  
**10800 Metcalf Ave, Overland Park, KS 66210|**

The goal of the SOAR Conference is to reach more self-advocates in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, and Iowa, to offer regional opportunities for mentoring, training, and leadership development. Each state takes its turn to host the SOAR Conference:

2019 MO, 2021 IA Virtual due to covid, 2023 Kansas, 2025 Nebraska

**History:**

In 2014, The United States Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities determined an investment in self-advocacy was a priority for their work. As a result, grants were offered to form regional collaborations throughout the country to support and learn from each other to support the growth of self-advocacy. The University of Missouri-Kansas City Institute for Human Development (UCEDD) has a long history of supporting self-advocacy and applied for one of these grants to support the development of self-advocacy in the Midwest.

Leaders from the self-advocacy movements in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri came together and became a regional network we named the Heartland Self-advocacy Resource Network (HSRN). Self-advocate leaders, advisers, and support people came together to determine how we could best learn from each other and work together. We participated in annual in-person meetings together as well as attended and presented at each other's statewide self-advocacy conferences. Through these in-person meetings, we realized how common our organizational challenges were, and that we could help each other think through new approaches given to us from our new friends from the states around us.

Over the three years of our partnership, opportunities expanded for the lives of people and their families with disabilities in Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri, especially in regard to leadership experience and opportunities. Self-advocacy is the foundation for an understanding of the rights and values of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In our regional network there is new awareness of what is possible for individuals and families and they know where to go to learn about these opportunities.

**To defray the costs of the SOAR Conference we are seeking sponsorships from interested organizations. Our goal is to keep costs of attending this conference low so that as many self-advocates as possible can attend.**

**Sponsorship opportunities:**

**\$5000 core sponsorship**

**\$1000 - \$5000, sponsorship of conference event (breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack, dance)**

**\$250 Vendor table**

ACL has established an agency-wide policy for including questions on sexual orientation and gender identity that are consistent with the recommendations of [the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine](#) any time we collect demographic data (except for purposes of program eligibility).

Fiscal Year 10/1/2022 - 09/30/2023

OMB Approval Number: 0985-0033

State (two letter State code)

Demographic Data \*\*

\*\*This is an aggregated number from all individual responses collected for the reporting FFY

Sexual Orientation:

| Which of the following best represents how you think of yourself? [Select ONE]: | # |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lesbian or gay   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Straight, that is, not gay or lesbian                  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bisexual   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> [If respondent is AIAN:] Two-Spirit*                   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I use a different term [free-text]**                   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Don't know)   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Prefer not to answer)                                 |   |

Gender Identity:

| Q1: What sex were you assigned at birth, on your original birth certificate? | # |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Female  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Don't know)  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Prefer not to answer)                              |   |

| Q2: What is your current gender? [Select ONE]                  | # |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Female                                |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male                                  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender                           |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> [If respondent is AIAN:] Two-Spirit*  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I use a different term: [free text]** |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Don't know)                          |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Prefer not to answer)                |   |